

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2012

#### **SUCH GREAT HEIGHTS**

#### WET Deck at W Chicago Lakeshore

644 N. Lake Shore Drive 312-255-4460

Watch the Air & Water Show practice run (11 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; no cover) on the seventh-floor terrace with a WAVE-iito (Cruzan citrus, mint, lime, sweet spices: \$13). Or, avoid the crowds and go VIP from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (\$150) with specialty cocktails, grilled burgers and dogs, DJ music and a reserved viewing spot for the show.



#### **THE NUDE ABIDES** The Viaduct Theater

3111 N. Western Ave. 773-296-6024

Vaudezilla kicks off its annual engagement of "Rollin' Outta Here Naked: A 'Big Lebowski' Burlesque"—a parody of the Coen Brothers' cult classic film that's become a cult classic itselfthis weekend. Get ready for themed striptease acts intercut with sketches inspired by the film. 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday. \$17.



#### **SILVER ANNIVERSARY Park West**

322 W. Armitage Ave. 773-561-4665

Dark comedy rules at the Annoyance Theatre's 25th Anniversary Celebration, which features scenes from its flagship show, "Co-Ed Prison Sluts" and

other hilariously edgy shows from the last quarter-century including the currently running "Steamwerkz The Musical." Arrive at 7 p.m. for a cash bar reception with founder Mick Napier and cast members. 8:30 p.m. Saturday. \$25.



1450 W. Chicago Ave. 312-348-1028

"Mussel" your way through Sunday dinner with Mussels from Brussels, a threecourse prix fixe featuring your choice of mussels served with white wine, garlic and petite herbs or Avery White Rascal beer, bacon and charred onion, plus frites or grilled bread and an appetizer and dessert. 5-10 p.m. Sunday. \$30 plus tax and gratuity.

#### **FOOD TRUCK BRUNCH**

#### JDY Gourmet

370 N. Carpenter St. 773-561-7539

Skip the sit-down brunch and head to the Warehouse Sale and Food Truck Roundup, where you can grab vittles from Big Star, The Southern, Beyond Borders and more—plus samples from City Winery and others-while you browse wholesale-priced beef, pork, wild game, Spanish imports and more. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. No cover.



#### redevechicago.com

General Manager:

Kurt Mueller @kurtwmuellei

Editor: Tran Ha

#### **CONTACT US**

Letter to the editor: redeye@tribune.com

Newsroom: 312-222-4970 **Advertising:** 312-222-2615 Classifieds: 312-222-2444

Home Delivery: 1-800-TRIBUNE

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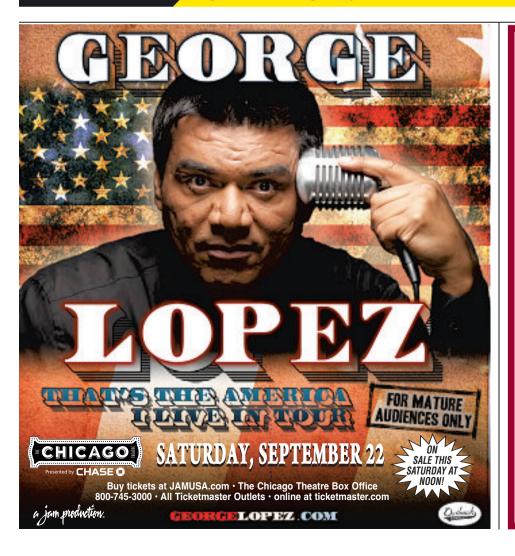
#### A SIB OF THE TRIB

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REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

Register now for the Aug. 25 City Chase urban adventure event: citychaseusa.com.





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- A chance to talk to instructors and students about their experience with the Writer's Studio
- Information on the Creative Writing Certificate Program and how to apply.

# **THEPENIS** MIGHTIER

#### **FACEBOOK. TWITTER FUELING VANDALISM PARTIES AT** FORECLOSED PROPERTIES **ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

#### Reuters

LOS ANGELES In the age of Facebook and Twitter, a new crime has hit America: "Sharpie parties," gatherings of revelers armed with magic markers and lured by social media invitations to wreak havoc on foreclosed homes.

Five years into the foreclosure crisis, Sharpie parties are a new form of blight on the landscape of boarded-up homes, brown lawns and abandoned streets.

They also are the latest iteration of collective home-trashing spurred by social media.

At least six Sharpie parties were reported in one California county in recent months, where invitations posted online drew scores to foreclosed homes.

The partygoers are handed Sharpie pens on arrival by their hosts and urged to graffiti the walls—a destructive binge that often prompts other acts of vandalism including smashing holes in walls and doors, flooding bathrooms and ripping up floors.

The California spree follows a similar outbreak earlier this year, when teenagers wrecked homes in states including Texas, Florida and Utah after seeing the movie "Project X," which features a house wrecking party sparked by online invitations.

Anna Hazel, an investigator in the Merced district attorney's office in central California, said the use of social media is a very effective way for

to track the progress of the party.

It also provides a treasure trove of evidence for the police.

Hazel said in her most recent case of "extensive destruction" to a foreclosed property, the host of the Sharpie party posted an invitation to "Matt's House of Mayhem" on a Facebook page.

At least 100 people turned up. Hundreds of smartphone messages describing the party also were sent.

They drank alcohol, scrawled profanities on walls, smashed glass, tore up parts of the house and left garbage strewn everywhere.

'We obtained search warrants for Facebook accounts," Hazel said.

"It was very useful to us to get access to the social networks. They posted pictures of the party. They were brazen about it."

Andy Krotic, a Californian realtor, said: "It's a growing fad among young people, especially the Twitter crowd. They throw a big party, everyone gets a Sharpie, and they are invited to write on the walls and spray paint."

Banks that own the foreclosed homes are reluctant to pursue the perpetrators, Krotic says, because they don't have the resources to hunt down the miscreants. Even if they're caught, the unwanted publicity from their prosecution likely would incite

"Usually they leave the damage and just



# Have no fear; bust a move



n @gy312

My cousin Quentin has a friend named Chris he always rolls with when we go out. Chris is short, superskinny and wears full suits to the club. Yeah, he dresses like he's headed to prom every time.

Chris' gear doesn't give him much play in the club, but start playing Montell Jordan's "This is How We Do It," and

it's an absolute wrap! Chris puts on these powder-white gloves and turns into a dancing machine. The running man. The funky chicken. The Macarena. The Watusi. The Casper slide. You name it. And he doesn't stop. The guy will dance all night, sweating and all.

So while Chris is something of a legend in my circle for his dance-floor exploits, the truth of the matter is most Dancers in Daley Plaza peeps are too cool to dance. It's like after high school and college, you're instantly uncool if you dance.

Why is that? I don't exactly stomp the yard like Chris (not anymore), but I do have enough rhythm to move the crowd. And if you can do that, guess what? You become the life of the party.

Yeah, rhythm is the groove! When I'm in the club, I pretend I'm Usher for two or three songs at a time with no warning, Some people think I'm crazy; others recognize I have the skills to pay the bills. Whatever.

Knowing how to dance is a lost art, but in the souls of the lively bunch at the party who don't care what the opposite sex thinks lies a champion! Well, at least a bronze medalist.

Dancing is a good gig if for no other reason than it makes a great segue. Girl: "Where did you learn moves like that?" Guy: "I toured two summers with Michael Jackson and perfected my moonwalk in Morocco." See what I mean? Chris knows what I'm talking about.

You don't have to be Magic Mike to get in on the action. Start with something simple, like the cooking dance. Think of it as preparing a meal-slicing carrots, stirring a pot, flipping a pancake-without holding actual utensils, pots and pans. And doing it to a beat. This probably is the dance Peter Pan and

> the Lost Boys did after defeating Captain Hook.

If you want to try something with a little more swag, my friend Sir Michael Rocks of The Cool Kids made up a dance called Bussin Down, a move for people who don't want to break a sweat in the club.

Basically, it's the fistpump dance but with some cooler twists. Put your game face on, switch up the tempo

and don't bring your fists above your evebrows. Seriously, check out Mikey's tutorial on You Tube.

See, you don't have to know how to break dance to win the crowd. A quick two-step, fist-pump, cooking dance or Bussin Down variation should suffice.

Now can we all stop frowning at one another, put down the smartphones and kick it? This isn't Hollywood-it's Chicago! It's OK to bust a move. Bailamos!

GRANT YANNEY IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

@JessicaGalliart. - Jessica Galliart, Redeye social Media Lady

#### @DROSE

Why you should follow: Derrick Rose is gearing up for a comeback, and he's finally, officially on Twitter to share good

news and updates. Must-follow if you like to feel good about life.

#### Sample tweet:

FOLLOW THY TWEETS (#FF)

You know what? This was a great week for Twitter. We started our first Twitter chat (firedeyechat-check back on Thursday!), Derrick Rose joined the network and we have yet another Ryan Gosling-related meme to entertain us. Follow these tweeps to get in on

the love. Suggest someone you think we should feature by sending a tweet to

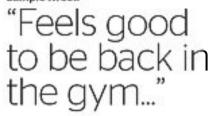


PHOTO COURTESY OF @DROSE



#### @JXWALSH Why you should follow: Jim Walsh is RedEve's fear-

less news edi-

tor. Want a taste of what the news team is working on? Give him a nudge and a follow this week.

#### Sample tweet:

'Never a dull moment on the @cta Blue Line. They should make squeezing past door blockers an Olympic sport."



#### @PAULRYANGOSLING

Why you should follow: Because if you haven't yet, man, you're really behind. This parody account isn't exactly favoring the

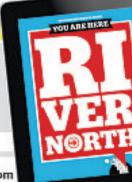
vice presidential candidate, but it takes advantage of the "Hey, Girl" Ryan Gosling meme in a clever way.

#### Sample tweet:

"Hey girl, I can control government spending, but I can't control..my feelings. Hold me closer. Tiny Dancer."

#### Exclusive iPad guide!

RedEye is now available on your iPad. It's everything you love about the newspaper and much more. Check out the new River North guide that contains exclusive content not found anywhere else! RedEye for iPad is published Monday through Friday for \$1.99 per month.



CLARIFICATION

A graphic about turbans created by The Seattle Times and published in the Aug. 7 edition of RedEye contained incomplete, inaccurate and confusing information about religious groups and their practices. The turban referencing Taliban members also is traditionally worn by men throughout South Asia and North Africa. The graphic accompanied a follow-up article about the slayings at a Wisconsin Sikh temple and described a variety of turbans that were unrelated to the tragedy. RedEye regrets the errors.













#### AUGUST

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

WED 1ST • AMERICAN ENGLISH

THU 2<sup>ND</sup> • MIKE & JOE

FRI 3RD • MAGGIE SPEAKS

TUES 7<sup>TH</sup> • R GANG

WED 8TH • BREAKFAST CLUB

THU 9<sup>TH</sup> • 7TH HEAVEN

FRI 10<sup>TH</sup> • iPOP

TUES 14TH • AFRODISIACS

WED 15TH • SIXTEEN CANDLES

THU 16TH • HAIRBANGERS BALL

FRI 17<sup>TH</sup> • 28 DAYS

TUES 21<sup>ST</sup> • SECOND TIME AROUND

WED 22<sup>ND</sup> • WEDDING BANNED

THU 23RD • HI INFIDELITY

FRI 24TH • DOT DOT DOT

TUES 28TH • THE MIX WED 29TH • HEY JIMMY

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# WORKIN' IT

RedEye wanted to know what Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno's day was like. So we followed him around Aug. 9.



**7:10** A. Runs 4 miles in the ward. Along the route, he points out the new basketball hoops at Wicker Park and the new pedestrian crosswalk signs on Damen Avenue. He mentions the recently opened Emporium Arcade Bar on Milwaukee Avenue and how he got the zoning law changed to allow the arcade to open in the neighborhood as part of a tavern.



#### 10:30A.M.

Takes a photo with his iPhone of a pothole-filled brick alley next to Estelle's that owner David Halpern asks to be repaved. (Estelle's has contributed \$750 to Moreno since 2010.) He plans to get a cost estimate to fix the alley by fall of 2013 using money from the \$1.3 million each alderman gets a year for ward infrastructure projects.



#### 11:35A.M.

Calls out bingo numbers in English and Spanish for seniors at the Wicker Park Apartments and gives six winners a \$10 gift card to 7-Eleven.

# JOE THE ALDERMAN

After a brush with the national spotlight, Moreno still focusing on neighborhood issues

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### By Leonor Vivanco | REDEYE

The die-hard Sonic Youth and Yo La Tengo fan has been spotted belting out Nirvana tunes during karaoke night at Quenchers in Bucktown. Photos of him in the dunk tank at Do-Division are on Facebook. This guy isn't exactly your typical Chicago politician.

Forget addressing him as Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno (1st). He tells people to call him simply Joe, his middle name. The title he really covets is "most accessible alderman."

The 40-year-old—who hates any mention of his birthday—is on his way. He tweets regularly, rides with police and hosts a week-

end satellite office in a trendy, cyclist-friendly ward that includes parts of Wicker Park, Logan Square, Ukrainian Village, East Village and Humboldt Park.

He landed in the national spotlight last month when he talked of blocking Chick-fil-A from coming to Logan Square after its president, Dan Cathy, made anti-gay marriage remarks. During Moreno's whirlwind media tour with stops at CNN and MSNBC, some anchors blasted him for his stance. The Chicago Republican Party has alleged Moreno is violating civil rights. Moreno wants the company to adopt an anti-discrimination policy in its employee handbook or mission statement, a move not required for other businesses in his ward.

To him, neighborhood issues like noise, public intoxication and recent security concerns at the Congress Theater in Logan Square are just as important as ones that make national headlines.

Moreno said the theater has made improvements to provide additional security and reduce noise, saying it has done a "good job" so far. It's heading in the right direction but isn't all the way there yet, he said.

Theater owner Eddie Carranza is careful about what he says about Moreno. He described their recent interactions as cordial but said he feels his business has seen some fallout from past remarks made by the alderman.

"We have a relationship that we're working to make better. But I don't want it to turn into a Chick-fil-A-type situation where I voice something very natural and then for him it could be offensive," Carranza said.

As alderman, Moreno often is tasked with balancing the needs of businesses, residents and community groups.

Anthony Martinez, executive director of the Civil Rights Agenda, an LGBT advocacy organization, says Moreno is a problem-solver.

"I've seen a pattern where he says something and then does it. To me, that speaks volumes in terms of what he is really trying to do with his position," Martinez said.

Moreno was elected in 2011 with 74 percent of the vote, one year after then-Mayor Richard M. Daley appointed him to fill a vacancy. He also ran for state senate seat four years ago but lost the bid.

He considers himself a "pragmatic, pro-



12:30-2 P.M. Various meetin terview, a ches

Various meetings at ward office: Windy City Times interview, a chess organization that works with Chicago

Public Schools and a local brewer who wants to be included at street fests.



2 P.M. Lunch at Belly Shack. He's been a vegetarian (who eats fish) for 19 years. Interview with RedEye.

3 P.M. More meetings at ward office: A developer who shows a preliminary proposal: A.N. Pritzker School principal who requests artificial turf.

gressive" politician. Despite a reported tiff with an aide early in Mayor Emanuel's term, Moreno says he has a "very good" relationship with Emanuel.

A tour of Moreno's ward shows how much the Latino alderman reflects its diversity. Like some residents, he's not a Chicago native. (He grew up in Moline, three hours west of Chicago.) He comes from a working class family, speaks Spanish and went to night school to get his MBA. He works as a printing company consultant on top of his \$110,847 annual city salary.

"I can walk to Empty Bottle, Subterranean, Double Door from my house any night and see—even if I don't know the band—I can go and probably see a good show. And our parks system is fantastic, especially having a daughter, leveraging that is tremendous," Moreno said of the two biggest reasons he moved to Wicker Park 15 years ago.

Perhaps the phrase that best describes him is doting dad. Moreno, who is divorced, spends any spare time he has with his 9-year-old daughter, Ava.

"Joe, as busy as he is, always puts family first. He always puts his daughter first," said

his fiancee, Celena Roldan, 36.

Moreno talks about how Ava plays piano and how he taught her to play chess. This fall, he's helping coach her soccer team.

Moreno also squeezes in time to hang out with his buddies at music fests or dive bars.

"When we go out, we make a conscious effort not to talk about Chick-fil-A or anything," said Bill Maliff, 41, Moreno's college roommate. "We just talk about movies we've seen. We talk about our kids. We talk about new bands that are coming out. We try to keep it very light. When he and I get together, we go back to being 19 years old."

Now, Moreno must set time aside for wedding planning. He proposed to Roldan over the holidays; the couple plans to marry in May in Puerto Rico.

Roldan knows the package deal that comes with a relationship with Moreno. When duty calls, he goes: He canceled their first date during the blizzard of 2011 to dig out his neighbors.

"He worries and carries the weight of his job all the time," Roldan said. "And his heart is in it for all the right reasons."

LVIVANCO@TRIBUNE.COM | @EVIVANCO

#### 5 QUESTIONS

# ALD. MORENO

#### 1. Favorite TV Mayor:



Tom Kane (Kelsey Grammer) in "Boss"

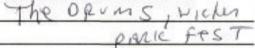


Rahm Emanuel "Chicago Fire"

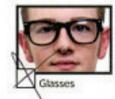


Joe Quimby

#### 2. Last concert attended in ward and where:



#### 3. Favorite hipster accessory:



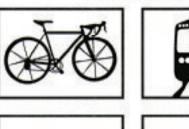




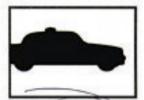
4. Best after-work spot in ward:

JUST one chose

#### 5. Preferred transportation mode:













\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# Chicago PRIDAY 7454 No sweat











Chicago firefighter Steve O'Malley (right), who rescued a drowning baby earlier this month, gets a ride in Team Oracle's Extra 300 piloted by Sean D. Tucker during a preview flight Thursday. The annual Air & Water Show, the largest free event of its kind in the U.S., takes place 10 a.m. 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The best viewing spots are in the sand at Oak Street Beach and North Avenue Beach (Ohio Street Beach isn't bad, either), but pretty much anything on or near the lakefront will give you some views. MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE PHOTO

That's not my choice.
That's the president's choice. But I believe Joe Biden has been a good vice president."

-Mayor Emanuel, saying Thursday that President Obama should stick with Biden as his running mate amid largely Republican calls for a change because of comments Biden made to a Virginia audience that a GOP financial plan would "put y'all back in chains."



#### M-Rahm looks to future on Northerly Island

#### Chicago Tribune

Mayor Emanuel on Thursday endorsed predecessor Richard M. Daley's infamous late-night bulldozing of the runway at Meigs Field on the grounds the destruction of the airport opened Northerly Island to use by many more Chicagoans.

The new mayor hedged a bit and pointed out what's done is done when asked whether Daley was right to order backhoes to cut X's into the runway under the cover of darkness in 2003.

But Emanuel touted a just-unveiled Northerly Island camping program for inner city kids as an example of why ultimately it was an appropriate move.

"It is right, yes, on this level, this way: Meigs Field is no longer here. Northerly Island will be part of the city in a way that everybody can experience," Emanuel said. 'And the plan that was developed for this was the right thing to do, and now we're realizing that plan. I'll leave it to others to make all that judgment. I think it was the right thing to do, and we now have Northerly Island going to be integrated into the life of the city, in the communities and neighborhoods."

#### **EXPRESS LINES**

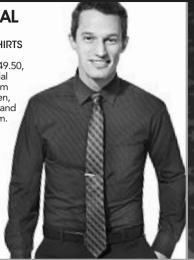
- » After sparring with Dr. Larry Blum over his interpretation of slides that he testifled showed deep bruising. on Kathleen Savio's left hip area, defense attorney Ralph Mecyzk questioned him about a lack of DNA evidence Thursday in the Drew Peterson trial
- A suspect in custody for the shooting death of a woman at a Gold Coast hotel had left his cellphone in the room, police say, Authorities arrested the 28-year-old man Tuesday at his home in Humboldt Park.
- » Former Bears star Steve McMichael said Thursday that he intends to run for mayor of southwest suburban Romeoville, TRIBUNE

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#### In the line of fire A man flees Thursday after police opened fire on thousands of striking South African miners armed with machetes and sticks. A South African Press Association reporter counted 18 bodies after the shooting, which occurred

when police laying out barricades of barbed wire were outflanked by some of an estimated 3,000 miners. REUTERS

#### Make way Vegetable market vendors in Thailand move their goods off a railway track Thursday to allow a cross-country train to pass through. REUTERS



Something's fishy Goldfish swim in a tank Thursday as part of an art exhibition in Tokyo. **GETTY IMAGES** 



# Family of crash victim found stabbed to death

A woman and two young boys were found stabbed to death hours after the woman's husband died while driving the wrong way on Interstate 94 near Michigan City, Ind., on Thursday morning, police said.

Police say Michael Van Der Linden, 38, pulled out of a rest park and headed east in the westbound lanes, striking a car in the center lane, police said. The cars erupted in flames and both drivers were killed, police said.

When officers arrived at Van Der Linden's home in Belleville, Mich., near Detroit, to notify his family, they found the door ajar.

When they checked inside, officers found Van Der Linden's wife and two sons stabbed to death, according to LaPorte County Medical Examiner John Sullivan. The boys, ages 4 and 7, were found in beds, police said.

Sullivan said it appears Van Der Linden stabbed his wife and kids and then fled, but said the investigation was

"They want us to look for a knife in the vehicle, but the vehicle is completely burned up and destroyed," Sullivan said.

Police Capt. Gregory Laurain said no notes were found in the home, but police planned to search the burned remains of the car. "There was no sign of forced entry. No sign of robbery," Laurain said.

Laurain said the woman was a stay-at-home mother and her husband worked in information technology. Neighbors in the quiet, clean subdivision of Tudor- and Colonial-style homes declined to talk about the family.

#### 11 killed in chopper crash

Eleven people were killed Thursday in a Black Hawk helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan, including seven U.S. soldiers and three Afghan allies, the NATO-led force in the country said.

#### **ICP files suit** against FBI

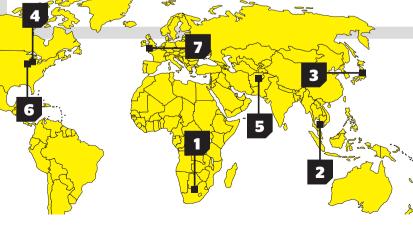
Insane Clown Posse founders Bruce and Joseph Utsler have announced they plan to file a lawsuit against the FBI for labeling their fans a gang. They made the announcement during the Gathering of the Juggalos in Cave-In-Rock, III.

#### J.C. Penney, Macy's battle over Martha

Macy's took its legal battle over its agreement to exclusively sell certain Martha Stewart items directly to J.C. Penney on Thursday, accusing the rival department store chain of interfering with its contract with the home goods designer.

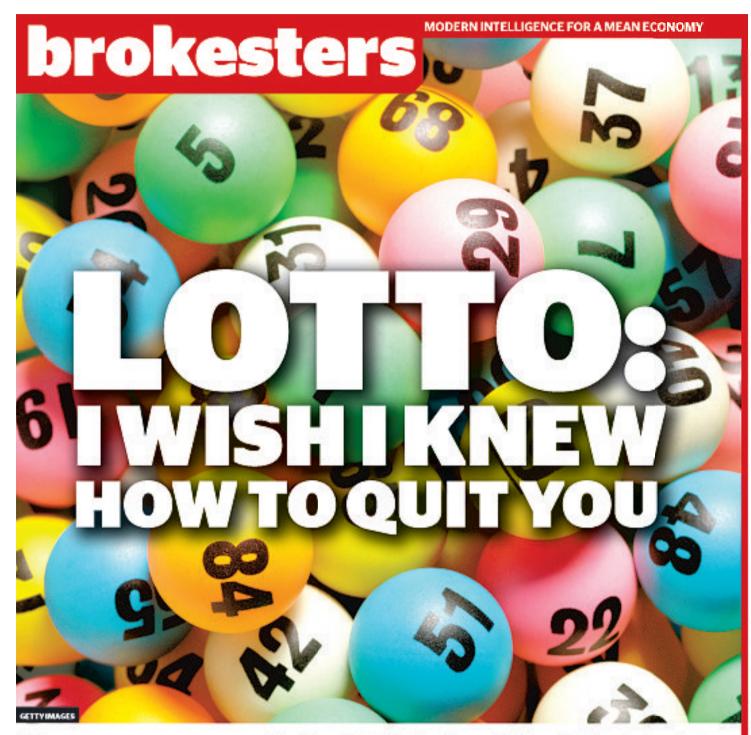
#### **Assange gets** asylum

Ecuador has granted political asylum to WikiLeaks' founder Julian Assange, Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino said Thursday, a day after the British government threatened to storm the Ecuadorean embassy in London to arrest the former hacker.



THE DIGIT More than 270 million Facebook shares owned by early investors became available for trade Thursday. That's more than half the 421 million shares sold in the May initial public offering.





#### CNN

Six numbers have the power to change your life.

Maybe you have hospital bills to pay. Maybe you've lost your job and you're worried about making rent. Maybe you still have a job, but it sucks, and you'd really like to spend the next 50 years lying on a beach with a mai tai in hand. Whatever your predicament, a million-dollar lottery ticket could fix all that, right? Which makes us wonder—when it comes to playing the lottery, are we all just damsels in distress?

"Because we're in a recession, people love to have a rescue fantasy," human behavior expert Dr. Wendy Walsh told CNN in April when the Mega Millions jackpot hit \$656 million. "We have the Cinderella complex—there's a fairy godmother who's going to come in and save us." We've all heard the statistics. Your chances of winning the Powerball jackpot are about one in 175.2 million. You're more likely to die from a bee string (one in 6.1 million), be struck by lightning (one in 3 million) or have conjoined twins (one in 200,000).

But people keep playing—most likely because the thought of winning \$320 million is much more fun than the thought of being attacked by a shark (one in 11.5 million).

"It doesn't faze them because they're in love with hope," Walsh said.

In 2010, U.S. lottery sales totaled \$58 billion, according to the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries. More than half of us have played the lottery in the past year, although 20 percent of customers buy the majority of the tickets.

Part of the allure is that everyone else is doing it, said Dr. Stephen Goldbart, author

of "Affluence Intelligence" and co-director of the Money, Meaning & Choices Institute.

In a Psychology Today article titled "Lottery-itis!" Goldbart noted two main reasons why people buy tickets.

"Jumping on the bandwagon is an age-old motivator of psychological behavior," wrote Goldbart and his colleague Joan DiFuria. "We want to be with the in-crowd, to be 'part of the movement,' not 'feel left out."

The second reason stems from a sense of disempowerment that comes with change—whether it's a changing economy or a changing world.

"The map to finding the American Dream has been radically altered," they wrote. "The lottery] lets you believe in magic: that you will be the one who spent a little and got a lot; that you will defy the extraordinary odds against winning."

#### Candidates could use your dough



YOUNG MONEY

Megan

Crepeau \* redeye@ So, it's an election year. And as you think about where to cast your vote, let your mind float back to that guy in your smokefilled freshman dorm room: "It's not like your vote even really counts, man."

And he was ... kind of right? I mean, yes, vote! It is your duty as a

citizen. People died so you could vote. But we're all constrained by a) the Electoral College, and b) the masses and masses of people who vote alongside us.

So if you really want to make a difference—cover your ears, Freshman Dorm Room Philosopher—spend some money. Here's how.

You can donate straight to your preferred candidate, of course. Most of their websites have "DONATE HERE" buttons loud and clear on their intro pages. You can give up to \$2,500 to a federal candidate (like someone running for President or U.S. Representative) and up to \$10,000 to a local party committee. That sounds like a lot, but trust me, they'll be grateful for whatever pocket change you can throw their way.

You can also donate to a Political Action Committee—those are, essentially, big of groups that work for a candidate or a cause. They donate your cash directly to candidates, or spend it on related things advertisements, buffets, whatever. You can give a state or local PAC up to \$10,000 and a federal PAC up to \$5,000.

Now you've got your Super PACs, which allow unlimited contributions from individuals. That's right: unlimited. But I'm guessing that if you read this column, you won't be hitting your donation limit on other stuff anytime soon, so just remember Super PACs for when you're a kazillionaire.

One more important point: No, your political donations are not tax-deductible. Apparently some people confuse politics with charity, and try to pull one over on the IRS. I don't know whether to laugh or cry.

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Rex Grossman GETTY INAGES FILE

# SDOTES PRESEASON: GAME 2 Bears vs. Washington 7 p.m. Saturday, Fox



#### RedEve

First Caleb Hanie with Denver, now Rex Grossman with Washington. It's as if the NFL set it up so Bears fans would have something to talk about in the preseason, when the games are as meaningless as Adam Dunn's batting average. Grossman's career in Chicago was a mixed bag, with a Super Bowl appearance as the high point among some head-scratching seasons. In a recent Tribune interview, the 31-year-old sounds like he's ready to mentor the Redskins' new No. 1 quarterback, Robert Griffin III. That's all well and good, but we know what he's REALLY thinking, Ahem.

Grossman, point bla

#### The former Bear has a lot on his mind since joining the Redskins

"[Robert Griffin III] has a strong arm. He's pretty accurate. His running ability is pretty impressive also. .. I think he's going to be great this year. But down the road, he's going to be phenomenal."

#### TRANSLATION:

"OK, so the kid can outrun me. but was he ever favorably compared to Brett Favre and his gunslinger mentality? I don't think so."

"As long as I handle my business and compete, helping out doesn't detract from what I'm doing... I want to be playing. If I have a chance to play. I'm going to try to take full advantage of it."

#### TRANSLATION:

"I'm not going to slash his tires or anything, but it's not gonna break my heart if this guy pulls a Donovan McNabb and throws a bunch of bounce passes early on."

"Anytime you are the No. 2 and No. 3 quarterback on a team, you talk a lot. Especially during the course of the year because they are not get: ting any reps."

#### wonder if Ashton Kutcher's gonna be at Soldier Field

TRANSLATION: 1

on Saturday, Or Danica Patrick. Hell, I'll take Jim Relushi"

"I wish those injuries [in 2004 and 2005] didn't happen. But they did. The ACL followed up by the preseason ankle injury back-toback cost me a lot of money, and 29 regular-season

games."

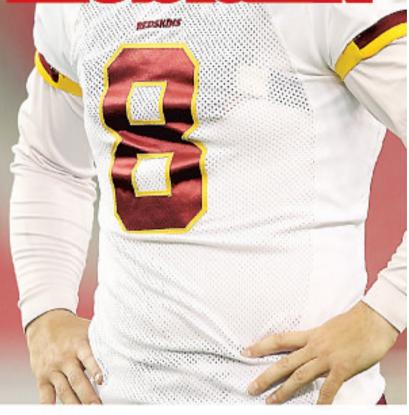
#### TRANSLATION: 'I totally could

have been Derrick Rose's neighbor at Trump Tower if my stupid body would have cooperated."

'I've had a lot of great experiences in that stadium. They are the team that drafted me. and doing everything we did there those six years, that will always be with me ... That city and that stadium will always be etched in my brain as one of the biggest times in my life."

#### TRANSLATION: "Uh, any chance I can have

Jason Campbell's job? I'd MUCH rather throw to Brandon Marshall and hand off to Matt Forte than spend another season in Washington. Pretty please?"





#### « CEE LO'S TURN

The NFL announced Wednesday that Cee Lo Green will sing this year's Thursday Night Football" theme, which will debut before the Bears-Packers game Sept. 13 on the

NFL Network. The song is called "I Love Football" and will be set to The Ramones' "Blitzkrieg Bop." As an added twist, the song also will be set to fan videos specific to the night's matchup; you can create yours at fanthem.nfl.com.



#### Painful week for Urlacher

#### Chicago Tribune

It's been a rough week for Brian Urlacher. First he undergoes knee surgery, and now people.com reports that Brian Urlacher and Jenny McCarthy have broken up.

"Brian and I have decided to turn our romance into an amazing friendship," McCarthy told People in a statement Thursday. "I will continue to be the biggest cheerleader for him. Go, Bears!"

In June, when asked about his relationship with McCarthy, Urlacher told reporters: "It's my personal life and I'd appreciate you respecting my privacy."

As for his health, Urlacher's optimistic. He maintained that Sept. 9 - the season opener against Indianapolis-remains his target date for returning to the

"I feel good, Better," he said Thursday, "I feel relief right now."

Urlacher was asked about the likelihood of enduring knee pain throughout the season.

"It could be some, there might not be any, I don't know," he said. "I'm sure it's not going to feel comfortable all season long. I don't think after the first game, anyone is healthy."

#### fiveonfive

FOR REAL

The Bears are only in the preseason. but these five always bring it like it counts. We don't have the heart to tell them otherwise.



Georgia Garvey @gcgarwy RedEye



Thompson @idyphidy Mash



Alex Quigley @afexquigley 720 WGN



Bag Boy redeyesports @tribune.com Brown bagged



Figure redeyesports @inbynecom Big head, tiny body

What should the Bears hope to accomplish in their second preseason game Saturday?

> Playing five games against the Reds in four days is ...

Convince Bears fans worried about Urlacher that it's not seppuku time vet.

... a dream come true for the 1980 U.S. hockey team.

Getting Robert Griffin Ill's autograph. RGThrilla!

... like a sentence handed down by Judge Dusty Baker. Revenge is sweep.

... a great callback to the good of days of the Cold War.

If you read my column

Wednesday, you know

nothing"

my answer is "absolutely

... a death sentence.

tackle.

... not going to leave much time to watch the Air and

Water Show.

Why are the NHL players and owners so far apart in labor talks?

Who said this: "I felt it actu-Whoever it is, it sounds like they might be doing it ally tear when I laid all the way out and it just let go"?

Brown's new book, "The Art of Greed."

The owners are reading Mike

They never broke the ice! OK, I'll do better after summer's over, I promise.

Has to be Kim Kardashian.

I couldn't possibly make another Paulina Gretzky joke here again, right?

\*Nods head, bites lip, points at answer No. 3. smiles\*

Two sides separated by a common language ... Canadish.

Coming to grips with the

fact that they have .. no left

Kristin Cavallari?

Does everyone have the right address?

Give Brian Urlacher a hug.

Sounds like someone could use some tape.

Why did Rafael Nadal withdraw from the U.S. Open?

His knee won't be healthy enough for Tebowing after a win.

His knees are clay achin'.

He's saving his strength for the Masters.

Ran out of the ol' capri pants. Happens to me all the time.

He doesn't want to miss anyone's barbecue on Labor Day weekend.





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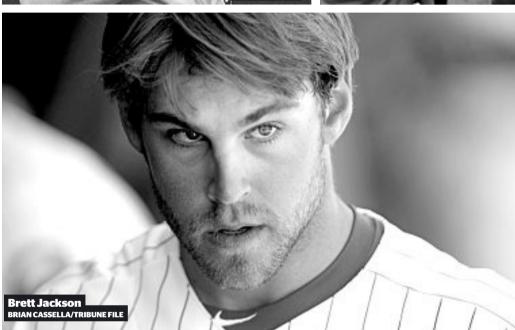
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## Wake me when the future's over

I have seen the future. It is here, and it is bleak.

I hate to use actual numbers, because we're more about the feel of things, but this is painful.

Your future Cubs. Brett Jackson has struck out like 18 times in 32 at-bats (a .563 average!). Josh Vitters, the third baseman of the present/future, or "the new Gary Scott," is hitting roughly .100. Starlin Castro, the shortstop of the present/

future/never, has taken a nosedive since

Wait, there's more! Matt Garza, your stud pitcher, is done for the year. He's hurt, and probably gone in the offseason. Good luck getting someone good for him. No wait, I forgot, we only want "prospects."

Interesting word, prospect. I forgot what it means. I feel really bad for Anthony Rizzo. I recently intercepted a letter to his home. Here it is:

Dear Mom.

It's fun here, but I'm lonely. Remember all those years in Little League, Pony ball and high school when I was clearly the best player on the team? Well, it's just like that ... except that there's no level higher than this! I'm stuck here



SACKED AGAIN

Baq Bov

forever! Please send a care package with Prince Spaghetti!

We need to revisit sabermetrics and come up for the appropriate terms for "way

worse than we thought," "we don't have charts that go this low" and "any openings back in Boston?"

Heads roll: Player personnel director Oneri Fleita has been fired. Problem solved.

These numbers do make you appreciate Adam Dunn. At least he throws in some homers with his strikeouts, though he's set to break the record and I mean smash it—for K's in a season. Yav!

OK, to our friends in Bourbonnais. Brian Urlacher's knee. They say it will be ready by opening day.

I see "knee" and "MCL" and "PCL" and "soreness" and "scoped" and I'm thinking, isn't that what the offseason is for?

It's also for finding an upgrade at left tackle, but someone at Halas Hall pulled the old "Wait, don't touch it, it will fix itself" routine.

Like Urlacher's knee, like the Cubs. Chicago style.

BAG BOY IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



#### **Not-so-special delivery**

Oh, those sneaky process servers. Kris Humphries' lawyers want to interview Kim Kardashian's current boyfriend. Kanye West, before setting a trial to end the estranged couple's 72-day marriage. Humphries' team reportedly tried a sneak attack with West's subpoena by putting it in a Nordstrom box and sending it to Kardashian's house, TMZ reports. What's next, a singing telegram?

#### Fire captain sidelined

The Fire's victory at Philadelphia on Sunday came at a price. They will be without captain Logan Pause for four to six weeks as he heals two broken ribs and a collapsed lung sustained during the game. The Fire's last regular season game is Oct. 27, and playoffs begin shortly thereafter, should they qualify.

THE MOUTHWATCH I'm not going to name names, but I've talked to a lot of top players in Major League Baseball, and they tell me ... there is rampant use of synthetic testosterone in Major League Baseball."

-Victor Conte, the founder of BALCO who spent time in prison for distributing steroids, in an interview with USA Today.



That's how much former Cubs pitcher Carlos Zambrano is asking for his a fivebedroom, 6,700-square-foot mansion in west Lakeview. Gatorade cooler not included.

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# hookups Fills

MISSED CONNECTIONS | LINE OF THE WEEK



Man for woman / Ohio and St. Clair, #2 bus / Thursday

You had on a coastguard uniform and as I got off the bus we locked eyes and you smiled at me... I was the guy in the security uniform.

# 5 sex toy tips for beginners



Dear Anna:
My boyfriend and
I want to incorporate sex toys into
our lives, but we're
both newbies.
It seems a little
embarrassing to
walk into a store,
especially because
we don't know
exactly what we're

looking for. Do you have suggestions?

—Curious newbie

I know how you feel. Like eating at a taqueria where the menu is written in Sharpie, buying sex toys is always kind of a gamble, regardless of how helpful the sex store staff may be. That said, I have total faith you and your boyfriend will triumph in your new adventures with sex toys, provided you follow these tips.

Tip No. 1: Know that buying sex toys isn't shameful or embarrassing AT ALL. While it's tempting to purchase toys from the cowardly safety of your computer, I'd recommend that you actually visit a brick-and-mortar store, at least until you're comfortable enough to know what to search for, what brands you like, etc. Early to Bed (5232 N. Sheridan Road) in Edgewater is my favorite store. It also has an awesome website, early2bed. com, with advice, product reviews, educational videos and more. Still, I recommend going into a store so you can see the toys and try them out (at least somewhat).

Tip No. 2: Start cheap. Yes, the cheaper products probably won't last as long (if you take good care of them they might), but nothing hurts more than blowing a big wad of cash on that crystal "trophy," only to realize you don't like it. That said, don't go TOO cheap. Make sure, at the very least, to avoid hard plastics and toys with phthalates. Adult toys, unlike kids' toys, aren't regulated. The first toy I ever bought was \$12. It was garish, pink, rubber, and it looked more like a thoughtful



#### Adult toys, unlike kids' toys, aren't regulated.

rhinoceros than a sex toy. It promptly fell apart but, hey, this is how we learn.

Tip No. 3: Start small. You might be tempted to reach for a larger toy, but working your way up the size ladder is always better. Plus, then you can feel like you're advancing with each level—like in swim lessons, from guppy to tadpole to sexual Jedi shark! Tip No. 4: Buy lube. It's cheap. It's helpful. It's like an adult slip 'n' slide for your nether bits.

Tip No. 5: Have a conversation with your boyfriend before you visit the sex shop. I know, talking is boring but it helps to have SOME idea of what you're looking for. Something for him? For you? For both of you to

use together? The more pre-game knowledge you show up with, the less daunting all your options will seem.

There you have it. Now quit toying around and start toying around!

Want to ask Anna an anonymous question about love, sex or dating? Email your quandary to redeyedating@gmail.com.

# **Tastes** like home

#### A Cameroonian chef and a Chicago Bear get cookin' in the South Loop

By Lisa Arnett | REDEYE

What happens when a Cameroonborn chef meets a Chicago Bear? In the case of chef Alain Njike and Bears defensive end Israel Idonije, they become friends and eventually open a restaurant together.

1355 S. Michigan Ave. 312-922-1186

Give it some time

The two met in 2009 when Idonije taped football and fine dining show "Game Time Dine" with TV host D.C. Crenshaw at Park 52, the Hyde Park restaurant where Njike worked. They found they had West African backgrounds in common—Idonije is from neighboring country Nigeria-and became fast friends. When Njike was ready to break out on his own with a restaurant combining his love for contemporary American fare with his classical French training and Cameroonian heritage, it was Idonije and another friend, Chad McClennan, who became his business partners.

Njike's self-titled restaurant, Alain's, doesn't serve traditional African cuisine, but it does hint at his heritage and follows the African philosophy of "eating where you live," he said. So like the many chefs enamored with farm-to-table cooking, Niike relies on meats and produce from Midwest farms to inspire his dishes. After a reservations-only trial in early August had passed, I stopped in to see what Njike was bringing to the table for dinner. Reviews are unannounced and meals are paid for by redeye. LMARNETT@TRIBUNE.COM | @REDEYEEATS

#### This isn't Bears country

Idoniie clearly didn't insist on Da Bears-izing the decor. The restaurant may be a few blocks from Soldier Field, but this is no sports memorabilia-decked man cave. Instead, Njike's roots shine through: One of his own paintings hangs on the wall, and the carved wood near the bathrooms was a gift from his father. He also brought in local artist Lynn Basa to decorate the bar with a colorful, swirling mural that soon will become a mosaic.

#### Everything has a story, but you might not know it

After interviewing Niike, it was clear that he's passionate about channeling his life story into his dishes—but I can't say I got that from my meal. Dinner started with a plate of fried dough, which my date and I happily munched on without knowing it was a Cameroonian street food that Nijke likens to Italy's biscotti. Our server was sweet, but didn't share any background about the dish's Cameroonian touches, and though Njike made his round to chat with a few tables, he didn't visit mine. And so my date and I ate our tender rabbit (\$22) and perfectly cooked but under-seasoned waqyu beef (\$28) served atop what we assumed were sort-of runny mashed potatoes. As it turns out, Njike calls them Bamileke potatoes, named for the farmers of western Cameroon and inspired by their technique of tater-cooking. Rather than boiling and then mashing peeled potatoes, he leaves them unpeeled and then steams, purees and chills them before warming in a pan with a semi-soft cheese from France's Basque region. Because potatoes are so important to the Bamileke people, they're not relegated to a side dish but instead pool across the entire plate—which would have been nice to keep in mind while I was eating them. Njike's also fiercely loyal to organic ingredients and Midwest farms, but that wasn't mentioned on the menu or by the staff, either.



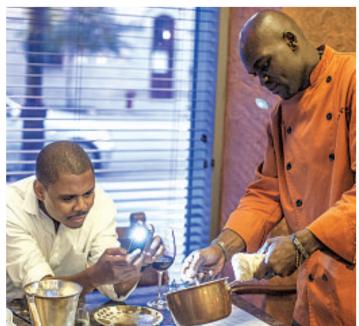




#### Try the Eto'o fish

Haven't heard of it? That's because Eto'o isn't a species of fish, but rather the last name of Niike's friend Samuel Eto'o, a fellow Cameroonian who also happens to be a star soccer player. Njike takes the freshest fish he can get-recently it's been snapper or skate-and serves it seasoned and blackened in the style of Cameroon's Bassa people as an homage to Eto'o. It wasn't on the menu during my visit, but Njike promises it'll be a staple from here on out.

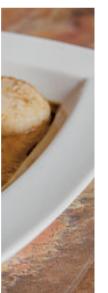




Chef Alain Njike serves the chef's table inside the kitchen.

#### **ABOUT ALAIN**

You could say that running a restaurant is in Alain Njike's blood: He grew up in a restaurant family in Cameroon and went on to study hotel management in Paris. "When I first moved to the United States, I didn't even know how to speak English," he said. His first job in Chicago was as a dishwasher at Hinky Dink Kenna's, a restaurant that operated below Marshall Field's. He went on to work in both kitchen and front-of-thehouse gigs at Charlie Trotter's, the Peninsula Hotel, Nomi and Park 52 before opening Alain's in the South Loop on Aug. 3.





#### If you're not a wine drinker, hold off

Unless you always order wine with dinner, I'd wait a few weeks before trying Alain's. Right now, the only beverages available are wine, lemonade and water. (I watched one couple sit down for a few minutes and then leave without ordering. Maybe they really wanted a Coke?) The wine list features picks from France and California, plus the refreshing Lion's Lair Family Reserve white from South Africa. More wine, beer and a full bar are on the way in the coming weeks.

#### **Bottom line**

I can't help but compare Alain's to other South Loop newcomers with entrees in the \$20 range, and the truth is that it doesn't yet measure up to nearby gems such as Acadia. With some finetuning of dishes and more of an effort from staff to clue diners into the special stories behind them, it has the potential to grow into a neighborhood favorite.

**ALSO NEW NEARBY** Alain's is just a few steps away from fellow South Loop newcomers Square One and City Tavern. Read our mini-reviews of both spots at **redeyechicago.com**.





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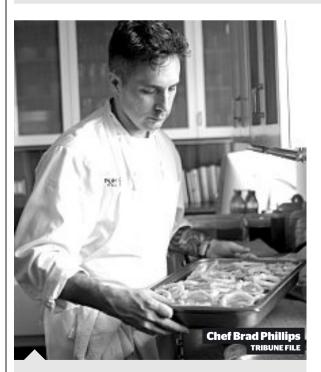
### **HOT RIGHT NOW**

**5 SPOTS FOR YOUR WEEKEND RADAR** 



Telegraph 2601 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-292-9463

Fans of this Logan Square wine bar have reason to celebrate: The owners have announced plans to open a new restaurant in the now-vacant space next door.



#### **LM Bistro** 111 W. Huron St. 312-202-9900

If you were wondering what would happen to the old Elate space in River North's Hotel Felix, here's your answer: Lincoln Square's LM has moved in, with chef Brad Phillips manning the French-inspired menu.

#### Crosby's Kitchen

3455 N. Southport Ave. 773-883-2525

The owners of Dunlay's, D.O.C. Wine Bar and Frasca have branched out to the Southport corridor with this just-opened restaurant. Think lobster deviled eggs, rotisserie chicken, skillet cornbread with maple butter ... and stroller valet, of course.

#### **City Winery**

1200 W. Randolph St. 312-733-9463

A restaurant, bar and concert space that also makes its own wine? Yup, you got it. Get a taste of all of the above during the West Loop venue's opening weekend. The spacious wine garden is due to open for Labor Day.

#### Bow Truss Coffee Roasters

2934 N. Broadway 773-857-1361
This East Lakeview newcomer forgoes coffeehouse creature comforts (no fancy pastries or cushy couches here) to put the focus squarely on the beans, and coffee fans are already hooked.



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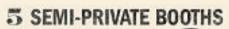
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stored; the lower the temperature, the longer the required fermentation period. A white mold and weast normally adheres to the outside of the sausage during the drying process. This mold adds to the flavor of the sausage and the drying process. This mold adds to the flavor



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#### Hot dogs, visual art and plenty of music at 2 North Side fests that keep summer going

FEST FRIDAYS

#### **By Renee Pinckney**

FOR REDEYE

Don't fear, fans of summer: There is still some warm weather and plenty of festivals to take in before the season's official send-off. The Glenwood Avenue Arts Festival in Rogers Park and Northside Summerfest in North Center are just two reasons to get out this weekend and enjoy some final summer revelry.

#### **Glenwood Avenue Arts Festival**

When: 6-10 p.m. Friday, noon-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

**Where:** Glenwood Avenue Arts District, located near Glenwood and Morse avenues in Rogers Park

Cost: Free

What to expect: A party Friday night with live music on one stage from The Mudflapps and Whiskey for Jesus will kick-off this festival celebrating its 11th anniversary. On Saturday and Sunday, more than 40 musical acts will take to three outdoor stages as an expected crowd of 10,000 files in for theater, food and drinks on the cobblestone streets of the Glenwood Avenue Arts District, known for its artist studios, music venues and restaurants.

**Highlight:** A hallmark of this street art fair is its outdoor and indoor art displays that will feature exhibitions from more than 100 artist-vendors.

#### **North Side Summerfest**

When: 5-10 p.m. Friday, noon-10 p.m. Saturday, noon-9 p.m. Sunday

**Where:** North Lincoln Avenue between Irving Park Road and Byron Street in North Center

Cost: \$5 suggested donation

**What to expect:** Approximately 20,000 people will converge for food, arts and crafts and a lineup of Chicago-area bands including 16 Candles, Hairbanger's Ball, Trippin Billies and the original acoustic duo, Mike and Joe.

**Highlight:** Hot dogs! Dubbed "Chicago's Hot Dog Festival," this year's fest is all about the essential summer snack, with local spots including Chubby Wieners and Chicago's Dog House dishing out their best interpretation of the classic dog, plus an amateur hot dog-eating contest Sunday for those with seriously big appetites.

GETTY IMAGES

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TRIPPIN BILLIES

# NORTH STAGE FRIDAY

8:00pm Mike and Joe

Legendary Local Rock Band

**6:oopm Robby Celestin SATURDAY** 

**8:oopm** Hairbangers Ball 80's Glam Rock

5:15pm Hat Guys 3:00pm Gina Glocksen Band 1:00pm The Hoyle Brothers

Magic Box Acoustic

7:00pm 16 Candles

Voted Best 8o's Band in Chicago

4:15pm Rod Tuff Curls & the Bench Press 2:00pm Stache

m Stache MerPlay

# WEDDING BANNED





#### **SOUTH STAGE**

**FRIDAY** 

Noon

Noon

**SUNDAY** 

8:oopm Wedding Banned

Skip the Ceremony

6:oopm Nick Lynch SATURDAY

8:oopm Too White Crew
Hip Hop Tribute

5:15pm Sugar High 3:00pm Audiomatic 1:00pm loe Rendon Quartet

Jack Cassidy and Symbia

**7:00pm** Trippin Billies

Nation's #1

Dave Matthews Band Tribute

4:15pm Mr. Blotto
2:00pm Jack Straw
Noon The Train Company

Noon The















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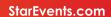




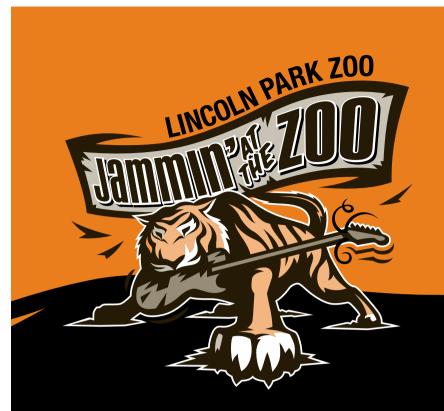












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#### music

#### **WEEKEND TOP SHOWS**





#### **Mad Decent Block Party**

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Acts include Action Bronson, Tanlines and Bonde Do Role. RSVP at **maddecentblockparty.com**.

**The Very Best** 10 p.m. Fri. at Lincoln Hall. \$15-\$18 Before heading to Dixon, the group appears in town in support of the acclaimed new "MTMTMK."

#### **Brian Jonestown Massacre**

9 p.m. Sat. at Metro. \$21.

The question will always be, "What will Anton Newcombe do this time?"

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#### music \

#### **ONSALE** \*= Matt Pais' recommended shows

#### ON SALE 10 A.M. **FRIDAY**

#### THE LUMINEERS,

Thursday, Sept. 20 (\$21, all ages) at Riviera Theatre.

#### ON SALE 11 A.M. **FRIDAY**

#### LISA LAMPANELLI.

Friday, Oct. 5 (\$30-\$50. all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

#### **ON SALE NOON FRIDAY**

#### DAUGHTER.

Thursday, Oct. 25 (\$10-\$12, 21+) at Schubas.

#### **MATTHEW DEAR.** LIGHT ASYLUM,

Tuesday, Nov. 6 (\$15, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

#### **EL TEN ELEVEN,**

Thursday, Oct. 18 (\$12-\$14, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

#### \* BEN GIBBARD. ADVANCE BACE.

Friday, Nov. 2 (\$35, all ages) at Athenaeum Theatre.

#### **HEARTLESS** BASTARDS. **FUTUREBIRDS.**

Monday, Oct. 22 (\$17-\$19.18+) at Metro.

#### LOST IN THE TREES. **MIDTOWN DICKENS,**

Saturday, Oct. 13 (\$15, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

#### **SEA WOLF. HEY** MARSEILLES,

Wednesday, Oct. 24 (\$14, 21+) at Lincoln Hall

#### THE SOFT MOON,

Saturday, Nov. 3 (\$10, 21+) at Schubas.

#### **\*** TAME IMPALA, THE AMAZING,

Tuesday, Nov. 13 (\$19, 18+) at Metro.

#### ON SALE NOON **FRIDAY**

#### **\* JAPANDROIDS,**

Thursday, Dec. 13 (\$18, 18+) at Metro.

#### **TOMORROW NEVER KNOWS 2013 FIVE-DAY PRESALE PASS.**

Wednesday, Jan. 16 through Sunday, Jan. 20 (\$75, show info TBD) at Metro, Smart Bar, Lincoln Hall, Schubas, Hideout.

#### ON SALE 5 P.M. **FRIDAY**

#### **\*** TAJ MAHAL TRIO, Monday, Oct. 1 (\$32-\$74, all ages) at Space.

#### ON SALE 10 A.M. **SATURDAY**

#### **ALANIS** MORISSETTE. SOULEYE, Saturday, Oct. 13 (\$49, 18+) at

Riviera Theatre.

#### \* REGINA SPEKTOR, Only Son, Wednesday, Oct. 17

(\$38.50-\$48.50. all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

#### \* JOSS STONE.

Sunday, Oct. 7 (\$37.50. 18+) at Vic Theatre.

#### **\*** THE WEEKND,

Friday, Sept. 21 (\$35, all ages) at Congress Theater.

#### **ON SALE NOON SATURDAY**

#### **GEORGE LOPEZ,**

Saturday, Sept. 22 (\$60.50-\$68, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

#### **ON SALE NOW**

#### **SANDRA** BERNHARD, Friday, Jan. 4, Saturday, Jan.

5 (\$45-\$65, all ages)

at City Winery.

LLOYD COLE. ROSE COUSINS, Thursday, Oct. 11 (\$22-\$28. all ages) at City Winery.

CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE FILE

**\*** CAT POWER.

Sunday, Oct. 28

Theatre.

(\$35, 18+) at Riviera

#### **RYAN MONTBLEAU, ERIN MCKEOWN,**

Sunday, Nov. 4 (\$16-\$20, all ages) at City Winery.





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# movies

# Better than the original



FAST PAISED

Matt Pais

» mpais @tribune.coi » @mattpais



With his first feature screenplay, Joel Schumacher (who went on to direct, uh, classics like "Batman & Robin" and "The Number 23") loaded the 1976 melodrama "Sparkle" with painfully inauthentic scenes in which black characters constantly describe white characters as "cracker" or, in a scene of an abusive relationship, "Bitch, crawl!" The horrifically paced movie (loosely inspired by the Supremes, who also factored into "Dreamgirls") doesn't seriously address a trio of African-American singers and their push toward stardom; it just demonstrates how a story can turn into sub-Lifetime material in the wrong hands.

Updating the setting from 1958 Harlem to 1968 Detroit, the

remake of "Sparkle" takes a big step up in legitimacy while sticking to a story as old as song. Nineteen-year-old Sparkle (Jordin Sparks, not much of an actress) wants to be a star but fears singing alone, so she's glad when manager Stix (ever-reliable Derek Luke) includes Sparkle's sisters, Sister (Carmen Ejogo) and Dee (Tika Sumpter, in the movie's best performance), in the act. A sweetly sung tune and Sister's short dress later, the gals are a hit.

Director Salim Akil ("Jumping the Broom") and writer Mara Brock Akil (Salim's wife, penning her first feature script after writing for shows like "The Game" and "Girlfriends") consider race as a factor in both a changing society and professional aspirations.

This occurs most strongly through successful comedian Satin (Mike Epps), who's far more fully drawn here than in the original as he romances Sister with his wealth more than his character. After the girls' overprotective mom, Emma (the late Whitney Houston, in her final performance), calls him a "coon," Satin insists he's more of a "sambo." Later he finds out how his material, focused on the behavior of African-Americans, plays in front of a black audience rather than a white one.

That's far more interesting than anything in the story of "Sparkle," which drags on through the usual beats of fame and tragedy and heartache and love. Amateur editing also dries out a film that livens up in its few musical performances, including Houston's pipes taking center stage for a song in church. She hits the high notes as needed; "Sparkle" shines here and there.



Jordin Sparks talks football, new film & Whitney Houston

#### **By Matt Pais**

REDEYE

When she was a kid, "Sparkle" star Jordin Sparks really, really wanted to play football.

"I think I wanted to tackle people, so I kinda wanted to be a lineman," laughs Sparks, whose dad played for the New York Giants and Dallas Cowboys. "[My parents] were like, 'You're a girl, no! We don't want people touching you in wrong ways and [you] getting hurt.'"

Needless to say, the 22-year-old past "American Idol" winner more frequently gets what she wants these days. That includes a starring role opposite one of her idols, the late Whitney Houston, in the remake of the 1976 cult favorite "Sparkle," opening Friday. In the film, set in 1968 Detroit, Sparks plays Sparkle, who defies the wishes of her mother, Emma (Houston), by pursuing a music career with her sisters Dee (Tika Sumpter), who wants to go to medical school, and Sister (Carmen Ejogo), who goes down a rockier path in her relationship with a comedian (Mike Epps).

From New York, Sparks talked about things she never got to discuss with Houston, remaking a beloved movie and the ridiculousness of one hypothetical name compared to one actual (cough, "Idol"-winning) name.

#### What acting advice did Whitney Houston give you, if any?

I never got the chance to just sit down and ask her, "Help me!" I never got to say that. She actually led by example for me. Being able to watch her, it was almost like a movie in and of itself. She was so funny and goofy and so down to Earth, where we were off-set just hanging out and waiting for the camera to turn around, and as soon as they yelled "action", she just turned into Emma. She turned into the mother, and there were times when we'd be standing there and she'd be saying her lines and I'd be like, "Is she really frustrated with me right now? Is she taking her frustration out on me?"

#### You've talked about the challenges of this being your first big acting role and that sometimes you didn't know if you were doing it right. What was one of those times?

The first couple days I was doing scenes from the end of the movie, and I didn't know that they were going to shoot out of order and that's usually how it goes. So I was expecting to shoot the first scene as Sparkle in the beginning of the movie 'cause she goes through such a huge arc and she grows so much. Then they were like, "OK, we're doing this scene from the end," and Sparkle is in this totally different headspace, so I was really nervous that I wasn't going to depict the emotion that she was feeling right because I was expecting to do ... the beginning to the end, and be able to



You'd be like the sister of Robin Sparkles from "How I Met Your Mother."

Exactly. I love Robin Sparkles. I love it!

Tika Sumpter (from left), Carmen Ejogo and Jordin Sparks in "Sparkle."

## Drugs, disappointment and comedy? It works

FAST PAISED

#### Matt Pais

» mpais @tribune.com Tracy Morgan's such a ridiculous caricature of a human being on "30 Rock" and in interviews that it's always great to see him actually acting. And acting

like a semi-normal person.

He was serious in last year's forgettable drama "Son of No One" and again impresses in the better "Why Stop Now," which costars the comedian as a drug dealer named Sprinkles. Don't laugh; the character means business, even though he's a sad man who lives with his mother and still laments wasting his potential as a runner. Promising pianist Eli (Jesse Eisenberg) probably has never met a dealer in his life, despite his mother Penny's (Melissa Leo) addiction. Yet Eli winds up translating for Sprinkles during a meeting with a Spanish-speaking, drugmoving superior. It's all so Penny can get high once more and get into rehab. Then Eli can audition for a prestigious music conservatory and perhaps break from a life in which he must take care of both his mom and his



9-year-old half-sister (Emma Rayne Lyle), who confronts her own problems through a foul-mouthed hand puppet.

At times the largely underwritten "Why Stop Now" becomes no more than the Sundance-style indie it sounds like. Writers/

Why Stop Now



directors Phil Dorling and Ron Nyswaner, while resisting a broad farce, let the drug dealer subplot fizzle out to nothing and offer a softened, simplistic take on addiction as mild comedy gets in the way of drama. Yet this offbeat amuser recognizes that there's more to education and success than pure ability. It's fast-paced and driven by Eisenberg ("30 Minutes or Less," "Zombieland"), again finding varying dimensions in a twitchy character that isn't a repeat of his past roles. Proper casting is different from typecasting, and Eisenberg is both funny and relatable as Eli, who while trying to spend time with a former classmate (Sarah Ramos of "Parenthood") also scrambles to settle family business so he can commit to his own.

Even Sprinkles can understand Eli's effort to quiet all the noise and just let his fingers run. And, unlike this year's foolish Lebanese dramedy "Where Do We Go Now?," it's appreciated that "Why Stop Now" poses a question and actually offers an answer.











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## ZONBIECON TOLERANCE IS SWEETER THAN REVEN

**ParaNorman** 

## FAST PAISED Matt Pais

» mpais @tribune.con Eleven-year-old Norman (voiced by Kodi Smit-McPhee) did not ask for the ability to see and communicate with ghosts. Why would he? This young horror film fan surely would have

seen "The Sixth Sense" and known that Haley Joel Osment doesn't exactly spend that movie with a big smile on his face.

The titular hero of the 3-D animated "Para-Norman" spends his adolescence as an outcast in the small town of Blithe Hollow because of a supernatural skill that's been natural to him since birth. Strangers see Norman talking to a bike or a skunk that's been flattened in the street; Norman sees the spirits of the dead (both on two legs and four) and says hi to these unthreatening beings, his only friends.

His judgmental parents (Jeff Garlin and Leslie Mann) and older sister (Anna Kendrick), who

wish he were different, certainly don't know that Norman soon will be front and center when a witch's curse ravages the community on its 300th anniversary, spilling from the grave zombies who immediately terrify the townspeople. The citizens persecute the undead for virtually the same reason spelling-challenged Alvin (Christopher Mintz-Plasse) bullies Norman and his new pal Neal (Tucker Albrizzi), who feels no shame for his weight, irritable bowel syndrome or kitten lunchbox. Bullying's part of human nature, Neal says, and if Norman were bigger

Clever and sweet, funny and spooky, this coming-of-age ghost story from the studios behind "Coraline" tremendously blends the horrors of monster movies and the horrors of

and stupider, he might be a bully too.

youth into an allegory about the fear that drives bigotry. While packing the screen with endearing, witty details (Norman's ringtone is the "Halloween" theme), writer/co-director Chris Butler advocates taking the high road in a world in which revenge only fuels resentments and being different can cause alienation at any age.

A few familial relationships seem underdeveloped, and the exceptional first-act pace loses steam later on. Still, zombie movies haven't felt so rejuvenated since "Zombieland," a great horror-comedy that tweaked horror conventions into a fast, hilarious road movie.

"ParaNorman," which also features an excellent, against-type vocal performance from Casey Affleck as Neal's dimwitted, muscular older brother, does it one better: This triumph salutes the fun of scary movies, but in real life dares to consider the person unfairly labeled as a monster.

#### WHAT 'NORMAN' ACTORS THINK

A team of 60 artists crafted 178 puppets of the 61 characters in "ParaNorman," the stop-motion family comedy about a young misfit with the ability to speak to the dead. The artists made 28 Norman puppets, each incorporating 275 strands of goat hair, thread and wire to create the hero's signature spiky hair style. The film utilized new technology along with the laborious stopmotion technique, using 3-D elements that could generate up to 1.5 million facial expressions for the misfit hero. What did three of the voice actors think of all this? RELITERS

Australian newcomer Kodi Smit-McPhee, now 16, who voiced Norman in 2010



while his voice was breaking and becoming "really cracky and weird"

"I just love his character so much. There's just so much going on inside of him and I liked the challenge of trying to get that through in the voice and emotions."

Anna Kendrick, voice of Courtney, Norman's sassy older sister



"I found it extremely free-

ing to not have to worry about how my face and body looks; to just be using that to my advantage and not having to worry about the camera angle."

Christopher Mintz-Plasse, voice the nasty school bully, Alvin



"It's special to be part of a stop-motion movie for me because there's so few of them and I love every single one that's released. ... They just always look so beautiful and you know that so many people worked so hard on that movie."

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## Family nonsense best left off-screen

FAST PAISED

#### Matt Pais

- » mpais @tribune.c
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Let's play a game: A new comedy features jokes about stereotypical French people smuggling sausage into the U.S., pigeons pooping on people, a couple who uses an

electric toothbrush during sex and gratuitous shots of the butts of both a beautiful young woman and an overweight old man. What filmmaker do you think takes responsibility?

If you say you guessed Julie Delpy (best known as Celine in "Before Sunrise" and "Before Sunset"), you're lying. Five years ago Delpy wrote, directed and starred in "2 Days in Paris," but that film, while unconvincing as a discussion of struggling romance, was more likely to spark conversation than aggravation. "2 Days in New York," on the other hand, features exclusively annoying characters engaged in shenanigans (like the inability to have sex because a handyman shows up to fix the buzzer) that land a long way from any statement Delpy ineptly tries to make about love, family or people's attempts to come to terms with death.

The farce begins when Marion (director/co-writer Delpy) and Mingus (Chris Rock) open their New York apartment to Marion's widower father (Delpy's actual father Albert), Marion's sister Rose (Alexia Landeau, who co-wrote the script) and Rose's boyfriend Manu (Alexandre Nahon), Marion's ex. Just because "2 Days in New York" is a small, low-budget effort doesn't mean it



**2 Days in New York** 

avoids the worst instincts of the "Meet the Parents" franchise, giggling about sex and drugs with smarts on par with an Adam Sandler movie.

Supposedly Marion's art exhibition touches on relationships fading over time, yet her work possesses no connection to her current one. Her conceptual piece involving the sale of her soul as a written contract recalls an episode of "The Simpsons" before it descends into a ridiculous interaction between Marion and a well-known filmmaker. Without giving anything away, that conversation results in a careless conflict that puts a child's well-being at stake without acknowledging Marion's sloppy priorities.

In voiceover, Delpy tries to clumsily tack heavy meaning onto a film that includes Marion's father saying he won't shower but wants to masturbate and Marion claiming she has a brain tumor just to deter the frustrations of a neighbor. Culturally insensitive Manu's presented as the worst person here; he tells Mingus, "You're so lucky to be black," and sets up a drug deal at his hosts' place. But nobody comes off more appealing than anyone else. Sheesh, at least when a young child went to the bathroom in the air during "The Change-Up" it wasn't after the main characters attempted to measure the tyke's penis.



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#### Stewart could reprise 'Snow White'

#### **Los Angeles Times**

While a recent cheating scandal involving Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson may be affecting their personal lives, it has yet to have any serious ramifications on the young "Twilight" stars' careers.

As Pattinson hit the promotional trail this week to talk up his new collaboration with David Cronenberg, "Cosmopolis," in which he stars as a paranoid billionaire, reports surfaced that Stewart had been dropped from a planned follow-up to her summer film "Snow White and the Huntsman."

But the studio that released that film, Universal, insists that plans for a second movie centering on the Huntsman character played by Chris Hemsworth are proceeding and that

Stewart's Snow White could still be a character in that film, despite reports that suggested otherwise.

Photographs surfaced last month of Stewart apparently cheating on boyfriend Pattinson with "Huntsman's" director, first-time feature filmmaker Rupert Sanders. Both Stewart and Sanders issued public apologies.

Universal has yet to select a writer or a director for the Huntsman-centered project, though Sanders remains on the list of possible director candidates.

Stewart did recently drop out of "Cali," an upcoming film from Nick Cassavetes, but plans to attend the International Film Festival in Toronto in early September to promote her film "On the Road," **people.com** reports.



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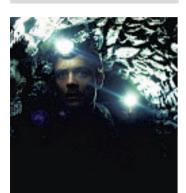


#### The Hunger Games

The big-screen version of Suzanne Collins' bestselling young adult novel didn't necessarily need to be any good to make half a billion dollars, but aside from the usual complaints about faithfulness—whether the adaptation is too slavish or too loose—direc-

tor Gary Ross does a fine job in capturing what so many people love about the book. A lot of the credit is because of his cast, in particular rising star Jennifer Lawrence, who brings an earthy reality to the role of Katniss Everdeen, a teenager who uses her wit and bravery to survive in a future where kids fight to the death for the entertainment of the ruling class. Exciting and imaginative, "The Hunger Games" is a zeitgeist-v blockbuster worthy of its fan base. Available Saturday. Extras: Six behind-the-scenes features, propaganda film, promotional materials archive.

NOEL MURRAY, LOS ANGELES TIMES



#### **Kill List**

Writer-director Ben Wheatley's follow-up to his volatile family crime drama "Down Terrace" starts out as the slice-of-life story of a temperamental mercenary (Neil Maskell) who takes on the assignment of assassinating three men, then finds the job taking an unexpectedly occult turn. Wheatley and cowriter Amy Jump build the movie around winding, profane conversations, which helps keep the movie grounded as the story gets more shocking and strange. "Kill List" is the kind of film that will have viewers watching through their fingers for most of its terrifying third

Extras: Writer/director commentary, cast commentary, interviews, two behind-the-scenes features

**NOEL MURRAY, LOS ANGELES TIMES** 

act, then arguing afterward

new cult classic.

about what it all means. It's a





#### The Raid: Redemption



This ultra-violent story of a special

tactical team's illfated raid on a high-rise run by a crime boss is the best battle in a building since Bruce Willis blasted his way through "Die Hard." Compare the violence in the two movies and "Die Hard" comes across like an evening in a luxury suite. This isn't the kind of movie where you expect anything more than a superficial story line and stereotypical characters. The story is as thin as a baby's résumé. Rama (Iko Uwais) is a rookie cop who is about to become a father. He's assigned to a team invading a tenement and has to deal with a personal mission along the way. His mission is the secondleast-interesting part of the film behind the bland title. Plot and character development are beaten out of existence because it's all about the action. There's never a dull moment. Extras: Seven featurettes on choreographing the fights, the weapons, the sets, the music and more; a commentary track, and a filmmaker's video blog. RICK BENTLEY, THE FRESNO BEE



#### **Dexter: The Sixth Season**

RICK BENTLEY, THE FRESNO BEE

The cable series starring Michael C. Hall gets better with each season because of brilliant writing and the convincing performance by Hall as a serial killer who works in a Miami police department. The cliffhanger at the end will make you want to subscribe to Showtime just to see what happens in the next season. As always, Dexter's killing rivals, played by Colin Hanks and Edward James Olmos, are solid and that makes for an engaging game of cat-and-mouse. Extras: Seven cast interviews, which on the Blu-ray discs oddly are available only via online-connected BD Live streaming

#### **ALSO OUT THIS WEEK ON DVD:**

"Community: The **Complete Third** Season": Bonus material includes "A Glee-ful Community Christmas" feature. "Breathless": Texas Gothic tale starring Gina Gershon and Kelli Giddish.

"Jaws": The Steven Spielberg film is also out on DVD this week; now on Blu-ray.

"Madness": A quiet weekend is ruined by a murderer.

"Juan of the Dead": Alexis Diaz de Villegas stars.

## More bang for buck in 'Expendables 2'

#### **By Rick Bentley**

THE FRESNO BEE

"Expendables 2" has one rule: Go astronomically big or go home.

That's why this explosive seguel is an overblown, testosterone-driven assault on the senses, loaded with aging action stars who make up a senior citizen brigade. This is absurdest filmmaking at its finest because the action often goes above and beyond the most violent military role-playing video games. It's not to the point of being a spoof, but it gets dangerously close.

What passes for a plot has Barney (Sylvester Stallone) and his muscle-bound merry men forced into a suicide mission to stop a crazy mercenary, Jean Vilain (Jean-Claude Van Damme), from stealing truckloads of nuclear material. You really don't need to

Just like the original "Expendables," the worth of this film is measured in the amount of ammunition used, the number of bad guys eliminated and the total sum of equipment destroyed. To that end, there are few movies that can compare. Heck, there are few wars



that can compare.

What sneaks through all of the blood and guts is the kind of dry sense of humor that made action films starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Bruce Willis so much fun. That the two stars can get into an argument over catchphrases during a torrent of bullets is a reminder that no one is taking this film

This round of silly savagery is both written and paced better than the first film. That's because Simon West—the man behind "Con Air" and "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider"-was brought in to direct. Stallone helmed the original, and he was too close to the project to notice all of the gaping holes. West plugs those problems with more layers of action and humor.

The film gets another kick out of Van Damme as the villain. He doesn't snarl nor twirl a handlebar mustache, but he does take



Jean-Claude Van Damme stars as a crazy, mercenary thief in "The Expendables 2."

great pleasure in being the kind of bad guy who can go shot-for-shot with the bevy of

"Expendables 2" is like an all-star football game. There's a degree of friendly competition, but it's not as much about winning as the spectacle of so many iconic stars—that also includes Chuck Norris, Jason Statham and Dolph Lundgren—being brought together. That's where the film goes the biggest.

■The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) ★ D 10:15, 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:10
■Total Recall (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 10:40, 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05

■AMC Independent Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption)

10:35, 2:40, 5:15, 7:55, 10:20
■The Campaign (R) ★ D 10:25, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30
■The Bark Knight Rises (PG-13) D 11:00, 1:00, 4:55, 8:40
■Hope Springs (PG-13) ★ D 11:10, 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, 9:40
■Sparkle (PG-13) ★ D 10:50, 1:40, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25
■AMC Independent The Queen of Versailles (PG) D 11:40, 2:15, 5:05,

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Searching for Sugar Man (PG-13) 1:35, 4:15, 7:25, 9:40

Killer Joe (NC-17) 2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:00

Beasts of the Southern Wild (PG-13) 1:30, 4:00, 7:05, 9:25

Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 1:15, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

Celeste and Jesse Forever (R) 1:45, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45

TO Rome With Love (R) 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55

The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) 11:30, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
■The Campaign (R) 11:35, 12:05, 2:05, 5:00, 6:40, 7:40, 10:20
■The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 11:45, 2:30, 3:30, 7:00, 9:45, 10:45

■Total Recall (PG-13) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
■Hope Springs (PG-13) 1:155, 2:40, 5:15, 8:00, 10:50
■Sparkle (PG-13) 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:10, 7:10, 9:10, 10:10
■Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 1:10, 3:50
■The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) ★ 12:20, 3:40, 6:15, 7:15, 9:35, 10:35
■Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) 12:30, 3:10

The Expendables 2 (R) 11-40, 220, 510, 650, 7-50, 9:30, 10:30

■The Expendables 2 (R) + 12:10, 2:20, 510, 650, 7-50, 9:30, 10:30

■The Expendables 2 (R) + 12:10, 2:50, 5:40, 8:20, 11:00

■Finding Nemo 3D (G) ★ (Closed caption) 11:50, 4:40, 9:50

■Finding Nemo 3D (G) ★

■2 Days in New York (R) 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50

■Total Recall (PG-13) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05

ParaNorman (PG) (Closed caption) 2:10, 7:20

■Total Recall (PG-13) € 10:40, 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05 ■ The Expendables 2 (R) ★ D 11/20, 2:00, 4:45, 7:15, 10:05 ■The Expendables 2 (R) ★ D 11:20, 2:00, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00 ■AMC Independent Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) D 10:35, 2:40, 5:15, 7:55, 10:20

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■Total Recall (PG-13) ft 11:25, 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:10

■ParaNorman (PG) ★ ft 1:45, 7:00

■The Campaign (R) ★ Ð 11:05, 1:30, 3:55, 6:45, 9:15

■Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Ð 11:10, 1:35, 3:55, 6:35

■Sparkle (PG-13) ★ £ 11:00, 12:45, 1:50, 3:45, 4:35, 6:30, 7:20, 9:20,

■ParaNorman 3D (PG) ★ 11:30, 4:30, 9:35

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■The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) ★ 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20 ■The Expendables 2 (R) ★ 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 9:50

■The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) ★ 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
■The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 12:00, 3:15, 6:45, 10:00

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■The Expendables 2 (B) ★ D 11:15, 12:30, 2:00, 3:15, 4:40, 6:25, 7:30.

■The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) Đ 11:00, 12:05, 2:30, 4:00, 6:00, 7:35, 9:30

■Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) D 11:20, 1:40, 4:15, 6:45, 9:10 ■Step Up Revolution (PG-13) D 9:00

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■The Queen of Versailles (PG) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

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■Total Recall (PG-13) € 11:10, 2:00, 5:00, 8:10, 11:10

■Total Recall (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:10, 2:00, 5:00, 8:10, 11:10

■The Expendables 2 (R) ★ D 10:35, 11:40, 1:25, 2:40, 4:10, 5:35, 7:00.

■ParaNorman (PG) ★ Ð (Closed caption) 10:30, 1:20, 2:10, 4:15, 7:40

■ParaNorman (PG) ★ ₱ 10:30, 1:20, 2:10, 4:15, 7:40
■The Campaign (R) ★ ₱ 10:40, 12:10, 1:15, 2:50, 3:30, 5:10, 6:10, 7:50,

8:45, 10:25

■The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) D 10:50, 12:00, 2:35, 3:40, 7:45, 10:05

■The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) ★ D 10:10, 11:10, 1:10, 2:10, 4:15, 5:15, 7:15, 8:15, 10:00, 11:00 ■Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) € (Closed caption) 11:00,

1:30, 4:05, 6:45

■Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) B 11:00, 1:30, 4:05, 6:45

■Hope Springs (PG-13) ★ D (Closed caption) 10:05, 11:45, 12:55, 2:30, 3:35, 5:05, 6:35, 8:00, 9:15, 10:45

■Hope Springs (PG-13) ★ D 10:05, 11:45, 12:55, 2:30, 3:35, 5:05, 6:35,

■Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) £ 11:25, 2:15, 4:45 ■Sparkle (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:30, 11:55, 1:30, 3:10, 4:25, 6:15, 7:30, 9:10,

■AMC Independent Beasts of the Southern Wild (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 10:00, 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8:15, 10:55 ■AMC Independent Beasts of the Southern Wild (PG-13) Đ 10:00,

12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8:15, 10:55 ■AMC Independent Celeste and Jesse Forever (R) ★ ₱ 10:00, 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:20, 11:00 ■ParaNorman 3D (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 11:30, 9:25, 10:20

■ParaNorman 3D (PG) ★ 11:30, 5:00, 9:25, 10:20

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■Total Recall (PG-13) ₱ 10:05, 1:00, 4:20, 7:45, 10:55
■Tet (R) ₱ 12:30, 5:45, 11:00
■The Expendables 2 (R) ★ ₱ 10:40, 11:35, 12:35, 1:35, 2:30, 3:30, 4:25, 5:25, 6:25, 7:20, 8:20, 9:20, 10:15, 11:05
■ParaNorman (PG) ★ ₱ 1:30, 7:00
■The Campaign (R) ★ ₱ 10:25, 11:25, 1:05, 2:10, 3:40, 4:40, 6:15, 7:10, 8:40, 9:50, 11:05
■The Dark Knight Rises: (PG-13) ₱ 10:10, 2:00, 5:50, 9:35
■The Dark Knight Rises: The IMAX Experience (PG-13) ₱ 11:00, 3:00, 6:45, 10:30
■The Watch (R) ₱ 10:00, 3:10, 8:25
■The Watch (R) ₱ 10:00, 3:10, 8:25
■The Watch (R) ₱ 10:00, 3:10, 8:25
■The Old High of Elizable Constr. (PG) ★ ₱ 10:45, 14:0, 4:05, 7:20

■The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) ★ Ð 10:45, 1:40, 4:35, 7:30,

™Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) D 10:15, 12:40, 3:25, 6:10, 9:00
■Hope Springs (PG-13) ★ D 11:15, 2:05, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40
■Loc Age: Continental Drift (PG) D 10:50, 125, 4:05, 6:50, 9:30
■Sparkle (PG-13) ★ D 10:00, 11:30, 12:50, 2:20, 3:45, 5:10, 6:40, 8:00, ■ParaNorman 3D (PG) ★ 10:35, 4:15, 9:40

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■Hit & Run (R) ★
■The Expendables 2 (R) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

#### ■Finding Nemo 3D (G)

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■The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) ★ ₱ 11:30, 12:30, 2:45, 3:45, ■Total Recall (PG-13) € (Closed caption) 10:10, 1:10, 4:10,

7:10, 10:10

\*\*Total Recall (PG-13) D 10:10, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

\*\*The Expendables 2 (R) \* D 10:30, 11:30, 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45, 9:30, 10:30

\*\*ParaNorman (PG) \* D 1:50, 7:00

■The Campaign (R) ★ D 1:30, 7:00
■The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) D 11:00, 2:30, 6:15, 10:00
■The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) ★ D 11:05, 1:45, 4:30,

■Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) £ 10:45, 1:20, 3:55.

■Step Up Revolution (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 10:00, 12:30. ■Step Up Revolution (PG-13) £ 10:00, 12:30, 3:10, 5:50

■Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) D 10:25, 1:00, 3:40, 6:10 ■Sparkle (PG-13) D 10:00, 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 3:35, 4:35, 6:30, ■ParaNorman 3D (PG) ★ 11:15 4:25 9:35

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■The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) Đ 10:00, 12:40, 1:10, 4:20, 6:40, 7:35, 9:55, 10:55

■Total Recall (PG-13) € (Closed caption) 10:25, 1:25, 4:25. 7:20, 10:20 ■Total Recall (PG-13) D 10:25, 1:25, 4:25, 7:20, 10:20 ■The Expendables 2 (R) ★ D 11:00, 11:50, 2:00, 2:45, 4:45,

■The Expendables 2 (P) ★ D 11:00, 11:50, 2:00, 2:45, 4:45, 5:30, 7:30, 8:15, 10:15, 11:00
■ParaNorman (PG) ★ B (Closed caption) 10:00, 3:00, 8:20
■ParaNorman (PG) ★ D 10:00, 3:00, 8:20
■The Campaign (R) B 10:30, 1:50, 4:20, 8:00, 10:25
■The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) B 10:15, 12:45, 4:10, 6:45

■The Watch (R) Đ (Closed caption) 10:20 ■The Watch (R) Đ 10:20 ■The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) ★ Đ 11:00, 1:45, 4:30,

■ Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) ⊕ (Closed caption) 10:50, 1:30, 4:05, 6:50, 9:30 **Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days** (PG) £ 10:50, 1:30, 4:05,

■Hope Springs (PG-13) ₱ (Closed caption) 10:20, 12:50, 3:30,

6:30, 9:15

#Hope Springs (PG-13) Ð 10:20, 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15

#Step Up Revolution (PG-13) Ð 10:05, 3:45

#Step Up Revolution (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 10:05, 3:45

Supply of prevolution (PS-13) to (Lorset cappion) 1005, 3:45 lice Age: Continental Drift (PG) B 10:10, 12:35, 3:00, 5:20, 7:50 Sparkle (PG-13) \* B 10:00, 10:45, 1:00, 1:45, 4:00, 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 1:00, 10:45 lice) 10:45 l

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ParaNorman 3D (PG) \* 11:00, 1:30, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20

The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:40, 3:20, 7:10, 10:404

7:10, 10:40

■The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) \* 10:15, 10:50, 1:15, 1:50, 4:15, 4:50, 7:15, 7:50, 10:20, 10:50

■Total Recall (PG-13) 10:40, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30

■Total Recall (PG-13) 10:40, 1:10, 11:10

■The Expendables 2 (R) \* 10:00, 11:10, 12:40, 1:45, 3:40, 4:45, 6:20, 7:30, 8:00, 8:00, 10:15, 11:00, 11:50

■ParaNorman (PG) \* 10:10, 12:30, 2:30, 5:15

■The Campaign (R) \* 10:45, 11:50, 1:20, 2:30, 4:10, 5:15, 6:40, 7:45, 9:30, 10:10

7:45, 9:30, 10:10 The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) \* (Closed caption) 11:20, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50 The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) \* 10:20, 12:50, 3:30,

6:10, 8:40 ■**Hope Springs** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 10:30, 1:10, 3:50, 6:30, 9:10

Sparkle (PG-13) \* (Closed caption) 7:00, 10:00

Sparkle (PG-13) \* 10:05, 12:20, 1:00, 3:10, 4:00, 6:00, 8:50

11:40

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■The Expendables 2 (R) ★ VIP Premium 21+ 7:30, 10:15
■Sparkle (PG-13) ★ VIP Premium 21+ 10:05, 12:20, 1:00, 3:10, 4:00, 6:00, 8:50, 11:40

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(S30) 444-FLM #560
■The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) ★ 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
■The Expendables 2 (R) ★ 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
■The Campaign (R) ★ 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
■The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 12:00, 2:0, 6:40, 10:00

7:00, 9:20 **Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days** (PG) 12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 6:40, 8:50

■Hope Springs (PG-13) ★ 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

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1715 Maple Ave., Evanston (847) 492-0123 & Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) B 1:00, 3:25, 5:50, 8:15, 10:40 The Intouchables (R) B 10:55, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55 Celeste and Jesse Forever (R) B 10:05, 12:25, 2:45, 5:20,

7.45, 10-15

"The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) D 12:15, 3:50, 7:25, 10:25

"Beasts of the Southern Wild (PG-13) D 5:25, 7:50, 10:10

"The Bourne Legacy (PG-13) D:10, 1:20, 4:30, 7:40, 10:50

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"Total Recall (PG-13) D 11:25, 2:15, 5:00, 7:55, 10:45

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6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 10:55 The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) £ 11:15, 1:50, 4:25,

9:35 rewell, My Queen (R) Đ 10:35 e Expendables 2 (R) Đ 10:00, 11:10, 12:30, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, ■ The Experiments 2 (n) ≥ 10.00, 11.10, 16.30, 15.00, 57.





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#### tv

## 'Boss' tightens grip on Chicago



SHOW PATROL

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The second season of the Starz political drama "Boss" opens with Chicago Mayor Tom Kane in the desert, staring off over the barren wasteland of scorched earth.

The scene serves as apt metaphor for the situation the boss finds himself in after the series' tumultuous first season: He stands alone as a man at war with his family,

fellow politicians and the press, and even his own mind, which is losing its battle against the ravages of Lewy Body Dementia.

As the new season begins Friday, Kane (Kelsey Grammer) has all but abandoned his protege, gubernatorial candidate Ben Zajac (Jeff Hephner), who with the help of Kane's own wife, Meredith (Connie Nielsen), and adviser, Kitty O'Neil (Kathleen Robertson), led a rebellion against him. His daughter, Emma (Hannah Ware), is stewing in jail after



Kane had her arrested, and her drug-dealing boyfriend, Darius (Rotimi), is seething because of it.

Kane is in the descrit to see his doctor, Ella Harris (Karen Aldridge), whom he banished from Chicago to keep her from revealing his secret to crusading newspaper editor Sam Miller (Troy Garity). With his illness worsening, Kane asks her to return to Chicago, where he's preparing to do battle over his plan to destroy a housing project.

He's not sure he can trust his new assistant, Ian Todd (Jonathan Groff), or Mona Fredricks (Sanaa Latham), another alderman's chief of staff, who is rallying the powerful Black Caucus to vote against the mayor.

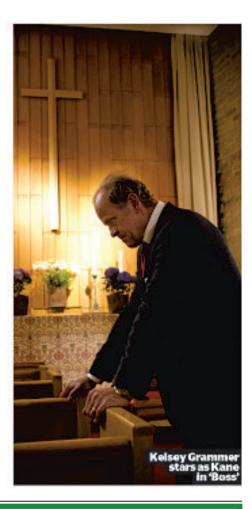
No, TV's best series that few are watching hasn't lightened up, and that's mostly a good thing. Although I appreciate a little humor sprinkled into my heavy dramas, that's not my biggest problem with "Boss." The few times I laughed during the first

three episodes of the season occurred when the writers themselves seemed to be amused by their own naughtiness. Last season it happened when Zajac and O'Neil had sex in the lobby of a downtown hotel. This season's biggest chuckle again involved O'Neil; this time she was gazing at her pregnant belly in the mirror. But do we really have to see all of her? The nudity took me out of the moment.

Quibbles aside, the Chicago-filmed series still looks fantastic (not unlike Robertson). Creator and executive producer Farhad Safinia, along with new showrunner Dee Johnson, capture the rough-and-tumble world of Chicago politics. They've done their research, fictionalizing real Chicago issues, including O'Hare expansion and public housing.

As Kane, Grammer further obliterates memories of his "Frasier" days, delivering a searing portrayal that was wrongly overlooked by Emmy voters. Grammer's supporting cast—especially Nicole Forester as Zajac's wife, Maggie—keeps in perfect lock-step with the star.

It's as if they're following orders from the mayor himself.























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"Boss" executive producer Dee Johnson (right) talks to director Jim McKay (left) and star Jeff Hephner on the set.

## She's the boss

SHOW PATROL

Curt Wagner

» cwwagner@ tribune.com Chicago Mayor Tom Kane, his political allies and enemies reveal more of themselves in the new season of "Boss," but don't think it's a touchy-feely affair. "Everybody's still

kind of diabolical, but we're glimpsing parts of them that show a human side—good, bad or otherwise," co-executive producer Dee Johnson has said.

The series, which was filmed in Chicago over the summer, returns at 8 p.m. Friday on Starz. Kane (Kelsey Grammer) remains as powerful as ever, but the diabolical mayor is struggling to keep a debilitating brain disease secret while going it alone in Chicago's rough-and-tumble political system. The new season delves deeper into Kane and other characters, Johnson said during an interview with RedEye this summer.

"The one thing we really sort of sat down collectively and decided we wanted to do as a writing staff is to basically try to understand who these characters really are and sort of put them through some paces to arrive at that conclusion," she said. "We really wanted to explore these characters further, scratch beneath the surface."

The executive producer, who took the reins

of series' showrunner from creator, cowriter, and co-executive producer Farhad Safinia for the new season, wrote Friday's season premiere, "Louder Than Words." She said writing for the series has been a challenge.

"It's a complicated show," Johnson said. "It sort of has that operatic quality and there are a lot of story threads and so to that end, it's not the easiest show I've had to write for, but it's deeply satisfying at the same time."

The show's first season earned generally good reviews, and former "Frasier" star Grammer won a Golden Globe for playing the kingmaker Kane. Johnson, a veteran of such dramas as "The Good Wife" and "ER," said she's had fun living vicariously through Kane, a man who enjoys absolute power.

"How often do you really get an opportunity to do that in a semi-realistic way? The character of Tom Kane is so king-like and that's what's really fun about being able to write for him," she said. "In this character we're able to really use language in a way that you aren't in a lot of other television shows. He does give speeches, so as a writer you're able to kind of use different muscles in the course of writing dialogue for this character.

"He has such a facility for language and he can be such a powerhouse and he can curse a blue streak and be equally compelling in any one of those aspects of his personality."

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### Bullets, bombs and brains. It's 'Strike Back'



"Strike Back" is the smartest action thriller on TV.

As was the case in the series' first season on Cinemax (it began on British TV), British counter-terror unit

Section 20 faces down a world of evil-doers, wasting more baddies in one episode than Jack Bauer did in an entire season of "24." But "Strike Back" is much more than well-choreographed firefights and blood-chilling terrorist atrocities. Where it truly excels is in showing the emotional costs paid by the super soldiers doing their jobs and by the witnesses and/or victims of all the mayhem.

As the new season begins Friday, Sullivan Stapleton's horny American soldier Damian Scott is now a full-fledged member of Section 20, battling international hoodlums without the help of his buddy Michael Stonebridge, the by-the-book British sergeant played by Philip Winchester. At least initially; when Scott and British diplomat Rachel Dalton (newcomer Rhona Mitra) are taken hostage by terrorists, Stonebridge comes to the rescue.



And what a rescue it is. The series wastes no time diving into the action, swiftly moving from one conflict to the next and pumping up this viewer's adrenaline like nothing else on TV does.

The season sets up a bit of a role reversal for Stonebridge and Scott as the former deals with an unexpected tragedy and the latter works to help him through the emotions. Winchester and Stapleton are superb in the roles that could have been simple stereotypes. They handle both heavy emotions and the quippy, teasing banter with aplomb.

Sometimes a simple nod speaks volumes about what's on their characters' minds.

Both actors' portrayals are so natural and subtle, you can pick up something new each time you watch an episode.

Filmed in South Africa, "Strike Back" transforms its home base into locations all over the globe. Again showing its intelligence, the series always uses the geopolitics of the area—in the first two episodes we see the lawlessness of Mogadishu and the way warlords force children into soldiering.

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## Slattery joins 'Arrested Development'

#### TheWrap.com

John Slattery is taking time off from Sterling Cooper Draper Pryce to hang out with the Bluths.

"Mad Men" star Slattery, who plays senior partner Roger Sterling on the AMC drama, will appear in multiple episodes of the Netflix-revived "Arrested Development," an individual close to the production told TheWrap.

Details on Slattery's character, or how many episodes he will appear in, were not available.

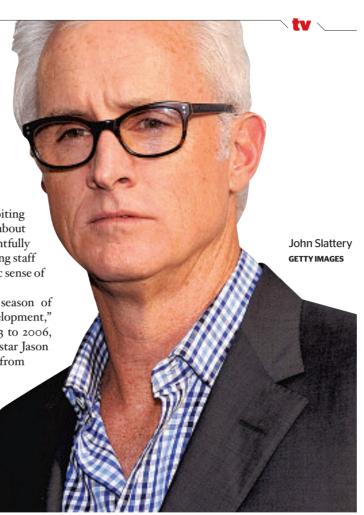
Series producer and narrator Ron Howard told MTV News on Wednesday that series creator Mitch Hurwitz would be introducing new characters to the resurrected show.

"Mitch isn't trying to recreate something," Howard said. "It's been away for a while, and part of the fun that Mitch has been mining and exploiting is, what's new to discover about these people? What's delightfully unchanged? He and the writing staff and the actors have a fantastic sense of that."

Production on the new season of cult favorite "Arrested Development," which ran on Fox from 2003 to 2006, began last week, with series star Jason Bateman tweeting a photo from the set and writing, "First day.

Away we go..."

Netflix gave 10-episode order to "Arrested Development" and will make all of the new episodes available simultaneously next year.







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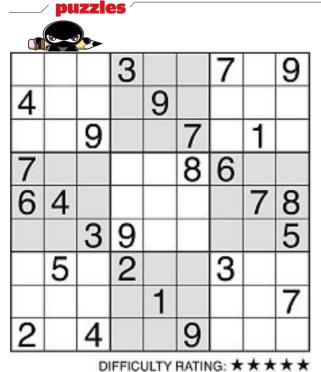


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## THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

#### **TODAY IN THE YEAR...**

1998: President Clinton underwent grand jury questioning in the Monica Lewinsky scandal. 1999: More than 17,000 people were killed when a magnitude-7.4 earthquake struck Turkey. 2010: Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich was found guilty of one of 24 felony counts he faced in his federal corruption trial. A mistrial was declared in the other 23 counts the jury was not able to agree on after 14 days of deliberations.

#### ACROSS

- Blockhuster shark movie
- Examine thoroughly 10 Injure mistreat

- 15 \_ in; enjoy 16 Too 17 Potter's oven
- 18 Freethinking 20 Finish 21 Wild hog
- 22 Hidden trap 23 Instruct so as to
- enlighten 25 Edison's initials
- 26 Can wrappers 28 Commander

- 31 Just right 32 France's dollar before the euro
- 34 Recline
- 36 Wharf 37 Deceit 38 Healthy
- 39 Distress signal 40 Current style
- 41 Actor Garner
- 42 Gazed fixedly
- 44 Withdraw, as states
- from the Union 45 Large tub
- 46 Ruffalo
- 47 Montezuma, for one 50 Atkins or South Beach
- 51 Reasonable bedtime
- 54 Going back in 57 Intl. military alliance 58 Rugged cliff
- 59 Dive forward 60 Steel's primary
- component 61 Opening
- 62 Legioints
- 63 Actress Daly

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- Comic's gag
- As neat as \_
- Feinstein's title: abbr.
- Checks text for errors Compensate
- All \_; finished
- 8 Stein or Stiller
- I awn tree 10 Like a rocket
- carrying people Actor Alan \_ Takes advantage

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- 13 Mother \_; rich ore deposit19 Sir \_ Newton
- 21 Invoice

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- 24 Precious 25 Take care of
- 26 "My \_ are sealed"
- 27 "Bye, Pedro!"
- 28 Give praise to 29 Basic 30 Angered

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- 32 Actor Savage
  33 \_away; fled
  35 Otherwise
  37 Worry
  38 City in Texas
- 40 Stretch of land 41 In \_; kiddingly 43 Get even for
- 47 Part of the foot 48 Two minus two

44 Military blockades

46 Unrestrained indulgence

- 49 Colorful duck 50 Have supper
- 52 Alma mater

52

- 52 Alma mater for Prince William 53 "\_\_the worse for wear" 55 BPOE member 56 Nylons mishap 57 Syllable before pick, wit

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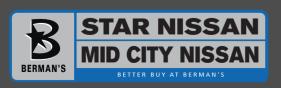








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who's going to help him?" she says. The interview will air Sunday on OWN.

